

Technical Branch
Museum and Zoo Group
Zoo Series

SENIOR ZOO KEEPER

06/88

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CLASS:

Under general supervision, supervises personnel engaged in and cares for Zoo animals and the maintenance of cages, enclosures, grounds, and service areas; and performs related duties as required.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES:

Insures the safety of Zoo animals; supervises the preparation of predetermined regular and special animal diets and the feeding of the animals; observes Zoo animals for signs of poor health or injuries and reports abnormal behavior and injuries to supervisor; helps veterinarian or the veterinarian's assistant in administering medication to animals.

Supervises and assigns the cleaning and maintenance of cages, animal enclosures and display habitat; supervises the care of horticultural collection; supervises the design and construction of horticultural exhibits; compiles with and enforces Zoo safety rules and regulations; enforces Zoo public safety standards and practices; answers the public's questions and gives directions regarding the Zoo and its facilities; prepares daily reports; keeps supervisor informed of the level, quality and condition of Zoo animals' food and other supplies; as required performs minor repairs and maintenance; reports damaged/defective equipment and cages to supervisor.

Assigns, supervise, trains, reviews and evaluates the work of assigned personnel; enforces established rules and regulations, standards of conduct and work attendance; maintains work and animal care logs.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Training and Experience: Completion of high school or G.E.D. and three years experience in the care of caged animals including one year experience as a Zoo Keeper; or an equivalent combination of training and experience.

Knowledge, Abilities and Skills: Good knowledge of the care, feeding and handling of Zoo animals; some knowledge of supervisory methods and techniques; some knowledge of exhibit display design, construction and horticultural enhancement.

Ability to prepare regular and special animal diets; ability to perform minor repairs and maintenance; ability to supervise, train and evaluate assigned personnel; ability to issue and follow oral and written instructions; ability to prepare reports; ability to enforce rules and regulations; ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with fellow employees and the general public.

Skill in the handling and restraint of Zoo animals.

Physical Requirements: Must handle and restrain Zoo animals; lift and carry heavy objects (up to 50 pounds); enter and access animal areas; work in humid surroundings; deal with the public; work under all weather conditions; operation of a motor vehicle through City traffic; must work various shifts and weekends.

Licenses and Certificates: Texas Class "C" Driver's License or comparable license issued by another state.

Director of Personnel

Department Head